INTRODUCTION

The Lodge of Perfection as known as the Ineffable degrees is the first of four (4) chambers in Scottish Rite Masonry. The term Ineffable is derived from the principle of this chamber which is to investigate and contemplate the name of Diety. Ineffable comes from the Latin word *ineffahilis which* means not to be spoken. Listed below are some more quick facts about this chamber.
Title of the Head of Chamber. Thrice Potent Master
Description of the Emblem: Yod inside of a Triangle/ Past Master Emblem Quadrant no Square
Bible Verse: II Chr. Ch-3
Sign: 14th degree Sign of Obligation, Sign of Fire, Sign of Admiration, Silence &Secrecy c/w; Jabulum, Mahabin, Adonai
Meetings:· 6 x per year, Quorum; 9 members
Order of degrees: 4-Secret Master, 5-Perfect Master, 6-Intimate Secretary, 7-Provost & Judge, 8-Intendant of the Building, 9-Elect of Nine, **10-**Elect of Fifteen, 11-Elect of Twelve, 12-Grand Master Architect, 13-Royal Arch of Enoch, 14-Grand Elect, Perfect and Sublime Mason.

Oath of Fealty taken and signed by every 14th degree Mason.

COVERING OBLIGATION (4TH-14TH DEGREE INCLUSIVE)

I _____ promise on my honor as a Freemason, that I will not reveal any of the secrets or mysteries of the degrees of Select Master, Perfect Master, Intimate Secretary, Provost and Judge, Intendant of the building, Elect of Nine, Elect of fifteen, Sublime Elect of Twelve, Grand Master Architect, Royal Arch of Enoch, and Grand Elect, Perfect, and Sublime Mason, which I have already known, am about to receive, or in which I may hereafter be instructed, to any person or persons, unless it be to a true and lawful brother or brothers of that degree.
I further promise that I will not be concerned with, aid, or assist in conferring these degrees upon any person, unless it shall be by the authority of a Lodge of Perfection, or other sanction of the Supreme Council, nor unless he shall have previously received the three degrees of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft and Master Mason, and the preceding Ineffable Degrees, in a due and regular manner.

And may God aid and assist me to keep this solemn obligation

4TH SECRET MASTER

The first of the series of Ineffable Degrees is the fourth degree, or Select Master, and is said to have been originated immediately after the assassination of Hiram Abiff. He being after his tragic death, King Solomon deemed it advisable to set over it a special guard; and so seven expert workmen were selected, who were in time promoted for their fidelity, and others appointed to fill their places. The penalty of violating their obligation of secrecy and silence was to have their lips sealed in everlasting silence.

So we have for this degree the sign of silence **(place first fingers . of right hand over the lips. Answer, place fingers of left hand over lips**).

Grip- Begin with the real grip of M.M slip right hand up other's arm, taking hold of elbow.

Password- Zizon (Entrance to sanctum sanctorum).

Pass Word- Adonai

5th PERFECT MASTER

After the body of the murdered Hiram had been found it was brought up to the Temple for interment. It being against the Jewish law to bury the dead within the walls of the city, the place of interment was known only to a faithful few, who were termed Perfect Masters, the degree having been originated for their especial benefit. The penalty for violating the obligation of a Perfect Master is to be smitten on the temple with a gavel

Sign- Strike a blow on right temple and fall back upon left foot.

Sign- Raise both arms and eyes to heaven, let arms fall cross-wise across the abdomen, drop eyes upon the ground. .

Sign of Recognition- Each advance right foot till toes meet, knee to knee, place right hand upon heart.

Grip- True grip of M.M., place left hand behind right shoulder, press four times, saying, by syllables, ma-habone.

Sacred word- Jehovah.

6th INTIMATE SECRETARY

When Hiram, King of Tyre, agreed to assist King Solomon in building the Temple at Jerusalem, it was stipulated that Solomon should give Hiram as reward for his labors and for the timber hewn from the forest of Lebanon and the stones hewn from the quarries of Tyre a certain number of measures of oil, honey and wheat, besides twenty cities. Upon repairing to the cities, instead of finding them populous and well provisioned, Hiram found barren and worthless soil, inhabited only by a rude, uncultivated people. He was much disappointed, and returned to Jerusalem. Arriving at the palace, in his anger he rushed past the guard in search of Solomon. The guard not recognizing Hiram, followed him, and upon arriving at the audience chamber and hearing the stranger angrily upbraiding Solomon and charging him with perfidy and deception, and fearing that he intended Solomon bodily harm, secreted himself behind a curtain to be at hand to render assistance in case of violence. Hiram discovered the man lurking there, and thinking him an eavesdropper, seized him and was about to put him to death, when Solomon recognized in the supposed offender his faithful servant Joabert. After mutual explanations the misunderstandings were adjusted and Joabert, for his fidelity and zeal was selected to fill the place of Confidential or Intimate Secretary, made vacant by the death of Hiram Abiff. The penalty for violating the obligation of Intimate Secretary is to have the body cut diagonally in twain.

Sign- Bring the right hand to the left shoulder, and then diagonally downwards to the right hip.

Answer- Cross the two hands with thumb extended and raise them to the height of the forehead, then bring down rapidly to hilt of the sword, raising the eyes to Heaven.
Grip- Take each other in ordinary manner by right hand, turn the hand over three times saying alternately, Shelemoth, Nedor, Berith.

Pass Word- Joabert.

Sacred Word- Jehovah.

7TH PROVOST AND JUDGE

The wisdom and good judgment of Grand Master Hiram Abiff had always, during the building of the Temple, enabled him to hear the complaints and decide the disputes among the workmen to their satisfaction, so that discord and envy were unknown among them. After his death it became necessary to have a tribunal to perform these duties. King Solomon therefore appointed a Council of Seven Judges for this purpose with Tito, one of his favorites, as chief judges. The degree of Provost and Judge is to teach us justice and impartiality; one of its injunctions being, “Thou shalt not respect the person of the poor nor honor the person of the mighty, but in righteousness shalt thou judge thy neighbor." Finally, we are taught to "Judge not, lest we ourselves be judged, for whatsoever judgment we measure unto others, the same shall in turn be measured unto us," The penalty for violating the obligation of this degree is that you shall have your nose smitten from your face as the punishment of an unjust Judge.

Sign- Place the index finger of the right hand upon the nose, the thumb under the chin, thus forming a square.

Grip- Interlace the fingers of the right hand palms upwards. Each taps seven times---3---3---1, in palm.

Pass Word - Tito. Cimi Cumi

Sacred Word - Shekinah

8th INTENDANT OF THE BUILDING

The death of Hiram Abiff caused a temporary halt in the construction of the Temple, and consequent confusion, because there was no one to draw the plans for the guidance of the Workmen. King Solomon therefore appointed a commission of five experts to continue the work, and under their supervision the building of the Temple was renewed. And so the degree of Intendant of the Building was instituted. The initiate in this degree represents one of the expert builders, and the lesson taught is that every Mason should be a builder, not of a temporal house, but of a temple of honor, love and humility within himself. As Intendants of the Building we bind ourselves to the performance of these duties under no less a penalty than that of being deprived of both sight and hearing.

Sign- There are three signs in this degree:

1 - That of Surprise- place thumbs on each temple, the hands extended in front of the forehead, as if to shade the eyes from the light. Take two steps forward and two backward and say "Benkhorim" - which means Freeborn.

2 - The Sign of Admiration - interlace the fingers upon the forehead, and let them fall to the waist, look up and say "Achar" (one of the Hebrew names of God.)

3 - The Sign of Sorrow - Place right hand on heart and left on hip, balance three times on knee.

Grip- Place right hand on other's heart, take each other's right elbow with right hand, left hand on each other's left shoulder, one says "Shekinah, the other "Yevay."

Pass word - Benkhorim

Sacred Word - Jah. Hua (Yevay Shekinah.)

9th ELECT OF NINE

This is a purely honorary degree, and was instituted by Solomon to reward the zeal and fidelity of those who were instrumental in apprehending and bringing to justice the assassins of Grand Master Hiram Abiff. Unlike the legend in the third degree, the story here told is that one of the assassins was located in a cave. The news was conveyed to Solomon. All were anxious to repair to the spot to seize the murderer. But the King finally selected nine Masters to bring him in. Arriving at the cave, Joabert, the leader of the nine, discovered the chief assassin asleep, with a bloody dagger by his side. Joabert thereupon stabbed the murderer to the heart, cut his head off and brought it before King Solomon, who became highly incensed at Joabert for taking vengeance in his own hands, and ordered that he be put to death. Influence was brought to bear, however, and Joabert was forgiven by Solomon who afterward instituted this degree of distinction to reward Joabert and his eight companions for their fidelity. The lesson of this degree is that while we should discharge our duty wholly and fully, we should not be over zealous for fear of over-stepping the bounds of prudence and good judgment. The penalty of the obligation of a Knight Elect of Nine is that of being stabbed in the head and heart.

Sign- Strike as if with a dagger, first at head and then at heart and say, Nekum, which means vengeance is taken, and was uttered by the assassin of Hiram, as Joabert drove the dagger to his heart.

Answer- Pass the hand over the forehead and look at it, as if for blood, place it on the heart and say, "Makah."

Grip - Close the fingers of the right hand and present it to the other, thumb raised. Other clasps upraised thumb with fingers, raising his thumb

Result - Eight closed, one raised- Nine Elect

Sacred Word - Gaborai Khayil

10th ELECT OF FIFTEEN

This degree is a constitution of the preceding degree, after the death of the chief assassin, as detailed in the degree of Elect of Nine, word was brought to Solomon that the other two assassins had been discovered in Gath. Solomon thereupon selected fifteen Masters, among them the nine knights elect, and sent them to that country to apprehend the murderers. Arriving in Gath, the knights discovered the assassins disguised at work in a quarry. They were seized, bound in chains and conveyed to Jerusalem where they received the punishment which their crime deserved.

The degree of Elect of Fifteen was instituted by Solomon to distinguish these faithful Masters among their fellows.

In this degree the initiate binds himself to fight against oppression, fanaticism and persecution under no less penalty for violating his obligation than that of having his body opened, his bowels taken thence and burned to ashes, and the ashes scattered to the four winds of heaven.

Sign - Make motion of bringing dagger up under the chin, hilt up, and striking downward, as if opening the abdomen.

Answer- Make E, A. sign and the thumb raised.

Grip- Close fingers, raised thumb of right hand, make transverse cut with thumb across other's body, and say "Zerbal" The others says "Alkhanan."

Pass Word - Zerbal

Sacred Word - Alkhanan

11th SUBLIME ELECT OF TWELVE

This is the third. and last of the purely honorary or elect degrees. King Solomon finding so many enthusiastic and faithful workmen about him, found it necessary to increase the number eligible to these higher degree. Quoting from the legend of this degree, we are told that after punishment had been inflicted on the murders mentioned in the preceding degrees, King Solomon instituted this degree, both as a recompense for the zeal and constancy of the Elect of Fifteen, who had assisted. him to discover the assassins, and also to enable him to elevate other deserving brethren, from the lower to those of places in the higher, which had been vacated by their promotion. Twelve of the fifteen he elected Sublime Knights, and made the selection by ballot, that he might give none offense, putting the names of the whole in an urn. The first twelve that were drawn he formed into a Chapter, and gave them command over the twelve tribes. He gave them the name of Emeth, which is a Hebrew word, signifying "a true man."
The ceremonies of this degree are belief and simple, and the penalty of the obligation is that you may have your right and left breasts torn open and be deemed by all men false to your word, faithless and dishonorable.

Sign- Cross the arms upon the chest, with the fingers clinched and thumbs raised.
Grip- Each takes other's thumb of right hand, fingers closed; each turns wrist 3 times, saying alternately Shelemoth, Neder, Berith.

Pass Word- Emeth

Sacred Word - Adonai
Battery -- +++++ +

12th GRAND MASTER ARCHITECT

Grand Master Hiram Abiff had been stain, his body had been recovered and interred with all Masonic honors, a monument of marble erected to perpetuate his memory, his murderers captured and punished, the captors rewarded and peace and prosperity had once more returned to Israel; but still the triple alliance remained broken, and so Adoniram, a man of superior skill, was appointed by King Solomon as Chief Architect of the Temple, with the title of Grand Master Architect. He being by virtue of his office, the peer of Solomon and Hiram of Tyre, was duly installed the successor of the lamented Hiram Abiff. The title was afterward conferred upon other Jewish Princes, and thus the degree of Grand Master Architect became established.
In the obligation of this degree we bind ourselves to conduct ourselves in a manner suitable to the character of one who aspires to be the successor of those men, illustrious for their virtues, who were the Chief Architects of the Temple, under penalty of being abandoned by our friends and hunted by our enemies, and of forfeiting all claim to assistance in danger, comfort in calamity and support in difficulty; and that our left hand shall be severed in twain.

Sign- Place right hand in left, fingers of right hand closed, and with thumb make as if tracing a plan in palm of left hand; looking at Grand Master as if receiving instrnctions.

Grip- Interlaced the fingers of right hand, each placing left hand on hips.

Pass Word- Rabanaim

Sacred Word - Adonai

13th ROYAL ARCH OF ENOCH

This is all important find interesting degree and is the beginning of the end of this series of ineffable degrees. It is closely connected with the degree which follows and serves as a solemn and impressive introductory to the same.

Enoch, the son of Jared, being filled with the love and fear of God, strove to lead men in the way of honor and duty. In a vision the Deity appeared to him in visible shape, and said, "Enoch, thou has longed to know my true name; arise and follow me, and thou shalt know it" Then it seemed to Enoch that he was taken up and transported to a mountain, whose summit was hid among the clouds; and there he saw upon the clouds, in letters of brilliant light, the awful and mysterious name whose pronunciation was whispered to him, and he was prohibited from uttering it to any man.

"Instantly he seemed to be transposed from the mountain, and to descend perpendicularly into the earth, passing through nine subterranean apartments, one below the other, and each roofed as an arch, in the ninth or lowest of which he saw upon a triangular plate of gold, surrounded by rays of light, the same ineffable name which he had seen upon the mountain. And thereupon he aroused."

Enoch accepting his vision as an inspiration, journeyed in search of the mountain he had seen in the vision. until weary of the search he stopped in the land of Canaan, and there employed workmen; and with the help of his son Methuselah, he excavated nine apartments, one above the other, and each roofed with an arch, as he had seen in his dream, the lowest being hewn out of the solid rock In the crown of each arch he left a

narrow aperture, closed with a square stone, and over the upper one he built a modest temple, roofless and of huge un-hewn stones, to the Grand Architect of the Universe. Upon a triangular plate of gold, inlaid with many precious gems, he engraved the ineffable name of God, and sank the plate into one face of a cube of agate, which he then placed upon a pedestal of white alabaster in the lowest of the nine apartments; the pedestal was triangular and hollow.

None knew of the deposit of the precious treasure, and that it might remain undiscovered, and survive the Flood, which it was known to Enoch would soon overwhelm the known world in one vast sea of mire, he covered the aperture and the stone that closed it, and the ring iron used to raise the stone, with the granite pavement of his primitive temple.

Then, fearing that all knowledge of the arts and sciences would be lost in the universal flood, he built two great columns upon a high hill- one of brass, to resist water, and one of granite to resist fire. On the granite column was written in hieroglyphies a description of the subterranean apartments; on the one of brass the rudiments of the arts and sciences.

The flood came, the granite column was swept away and ground to a shapeless mass by the deluge. But that of brass stood firm, and was found by Noah. Thenceforward the true name of God remains unknown until He said unto Moses in Egypt, when he ordered him to go to Pharaoh, and cause him to send forth the children of Israel out of Egypt, "I am that which I was and shall be: I am the God of thy fathers; the God of Abraham, of Isaac and of Jacob. Thus thou shalt say unto the children of Israel, He who is hath sent me unto you. I am the Lord that appeared to Abraham, Isaac and to Jacob by the name El Shadi, but my true name I did not show them."

Thus runs the legend of this degree. As has already been stated, through the people's wickedness the true name of Deity was lost to them. It was revealed to Enoch who adopted the means narrated above to preserve it to mankind - he having had foreknowledge of the destruction of the people for their wickedness and idolatry.
The ceremonies are very impressive, and teach us to be upright, patient and persevering. The penalty for violating the obligation of this degree is that you may be crushed beneath the ruins of a subterranean edifice.
Sign- There are two signs in this degree:

1. The Sign of Admiration- Raise both arms toward heaven, the head inclined to the left, the right knee upon the ground.

2. The Sign of Adoration- Fall upon both knees, bring the right hand down from the left shoulder to the right hip, place the left hand behind the other's back.

Grip- Place your hands under the arm pit of the brother, as if to assist him to rise, and gave the pass word

Pass Word- Hamaleek- Gibulum.

Sacred Word- Y. H. V. H.

14th GRAND ELECT, PERFECT AND SUBLIME MASON

This degree is a continuation of the preceding degree and is the final act in the drama of the restoration of the true pronunciation of the name of Deity to mankind.
By a curious coincidence, the temple of Solomon was located on the spot occupied by the ancient temple of Enoch, and workmen in excavating for a subterranean vault, discovered the plate of gold containing the mysterious characters which had been deposited by Enoch. They carried it to King Solomon, who with Hiram of Tyre and Hiram Abiff discovered it to contain the true pronunciation of the name of Deity. Which pronunciation was promised as a reward for the faithful workmen, and which promise cost Hiram Abiff his life.
Here the long search ends, and all those who have proved themselves faithful are rewarded according to the promises made unto their fathers. When the awful name is uttered lightning flashes, thunder rolls, the earth trembles and mankind stands in awe.
The ineffable tetragrammaton, or four-lettered name, in different ages of the world, received different pronunciations, and varied with the country and language of the speaker. Its pronunciation underwent many changes, which are called Ages of Masonry. They are three, five, seven and nine - the mysterious numbers of this degree.
My brother, I will now communicate to you the signs, tokens, passwords and covered words of a Grand Elect, Perfect and Sublime Mason.
There are three signs, three tokens, three passwords, three covered words and a grand ineffable word to this degree.

The First Sign is that of Obligation - Place the right hand on the left side of the abdomen, thumb extended and fingers clinched, and draw it quickly across the body, dropping it to the right side.
The Second Sign is that of Fire - Raise the right hand, open, to the left cheek, palm out, holding the right elbow with left hand.
The Third Sign is that of Adoration - Raise the hands open, to heaven, the head inclined backward and the eyes raised, place the two first fingers of the right hand upon the lips, let the hands fall across the abdomen, and bow.
The First Token- Take each other in ordinary manner by right hand, reverse three times, saying alternately Berith, Neder, Shelemoth.
Second Token- Begin with true grip of Master Mason. One says "Can you go further." Then pass the hands, first to the middle of the forearm, then to the elbow, taking hold underneath place each his left hand on the other's right shoulder, advances each the right foot to beyond the other's left foot and balance three times.
First Pass Word- Shiboleth - (signifying plenty).
Second Pass Word- El Khanan - the mercy of God
Third Pass Word- Be Makah Bomearah- interpreted God be praised, we have found it.
First Covered Word - Jabulum - meaning friend or brother.
Second Covered Word – Mahabin - silence and respect.
Third Covered Word - Adonai- interpreted O thou the only eternal.

The Sacred Word - is (to be lettered) Jehovah- to be given J. H. V. H - in Hebrew Yod He Vau He, and which the ancient Hebrews were permitted to pronounce but once in a lifetime.

CONCLUSION

This, my brother, completes the ineffable degrees. I hail you as a Grand Elect, Perfect and Sublime Mason, and most earnestly recommend to you the strictest care and circumspection in all your conduct, that the mysteries of these degrees be not profaned or disgraced.
My brother, the remainder of the Scottish Rite Degrees are divided into three grand divisions: Philosophical, Judicial and Chivalric.

The Philosophical are the degrees of the 15th to the 30th, inclusive, divided into two grand divisions, the Chapter of Rose Croix, embracing the degrees from the 15th to the 18th, inclusive; and the Council of Kadosh, embracing the degrees from the 19th to 30th, inclusive. In them ways and means of bettering the condition of mankind are sought; we are still in the pursuit of good, and laboring for the destruction of evil. Following the laws laid down in all Masonic degrees, we take a bold step towards purifying our own lives and sowing, for others to reap fruits of abundant happiness.